

5 MAR 1955

Mr. K. S. Pitzer  
Chairman, General Advisory Committee  
to the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission  
P. O. Box 3528  
Washington 7, D.C.

62-166/a

Dear Mr. Pitzer:

I wish to take advantage of the opportunity which you have extended to me as an individual to nominate Dr. Edward Teller as a candidate to receive the Enrico Fermi Award.

My recommendation is based on a conviction stemming from my own observations, especially as Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, that Dr. Teller's many contributions to the development, use, and control of atomic energy more than meet the conditions stipulated in the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 which call for "any especially meritorious contribution."

Dr. Teller is, of course, a first class scientist and his accomplishments in the several disciplines in which he works need not be recounted here. By first class, I mean his position of intuitive insight and imagination which are the hallmarks of creativity.

He has been singularly dedicated to the national security of the United States. In this connection, he has had a leading role in solving a number of technical problems of critical importance. The development of our nuclear capability has benefitted immeasurably from Dr. Teller's personal contributions. He is primarily responsible for our understanding of the atomic properties of materials at extreme pressures and temperatures.

Dr. Teller's contribution to solving the problems of thermonuclear explosives was to bring decisive insight to bear on developing a new and vital instrument of military power. He has made important contributions in the field of intercontinental ballistic missiles and in the development of our Polaris capability.

(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE

**Teller was one of the first to recognize the great potential of nuclear energy for peaceful uses, including "Project Plowshare," which will one day be of vast importance to all mankind.**

**It is a distinct honor to recommend to the Committee, Dr. Edward Teller for the Enrico Fermi Award.**

**Sincerely,**

**(Signed) JOHN A. McCONE**

**John A. McCone**

80/562-0126

GENERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
TO THE  
U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION  
P.O. BOX 3528  
WASHINGTON 7, D.C.

62-166

January 8, 1962

ENRICO FERMI AWARD

Dear Sir:

The Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (Public Law 703-83rd Congress) provides the following in Section 157b(3) ". . . . . The Commission may also, upon the recommendation of the General Advisory Committee, and with the approval of the President, grant an award for any especially meritorious contribution to the development, use, or control of atomic energy".

The first award under this Act was made on November 16, 1954, to Enrico Fermi. In December of 1955 the General Advisory Committee recommended to the Atomic Energy Commission that an Enrico Fermi Award be established on a permanent basis, and that it be international in scope, available to scientists of all nations. These recommendations, together with others pertaining to the Award, were approved by the Commission early in 1956.

The Commission determined that the Award should be made not more often than annually, and not necessarily annually. Previous recipients of the Award have been Dr. John von Neumann, Dr. Ernest O. Lawrence, Dr. Eugene P. Wigner, Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg, and Dr. Hans A. Bethe. The General Advisory Committee now has the duty of inviting nominations for the next Enrico Fermi Award.


In fulfilling our obligation under the Atomic Energy Act, we invite you as an individual to nominate a candidate who, in your judgment, has made an especially meritorious scientific or technical contribution to the development, use, or control of atomic energy. The Committee wishes no worthy candidate to be overlooked.

Nominations should be received by the Chairman, General Advisory Committee, U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, P. O. Box 3528, Washington 7, D. C., not later than March 1, 1962. In making a nomination, please minimize such biographical data as can readily be found in standard reference works, and place principal emphasis on a concise statement of the scientific or technical achievements upon which the nomination is based.

Nominees for the Awards of previous years will be considered again for the next Award. Although supporting material for previous nominees is available in the office of the General Advisory Committee, it is requested that you renominate your candidate, if you should so desire, and furnish any new or supplementary evidence in his behalf.

Your assistance to the Committee in the selection of a nominee for this important Award will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

  
K. S. Pitzer  
Chairman

Mr. John A. McCone  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington 25, D. C.